

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:
  - a conically-shaped stud mounting extending conically outward from a conical point to form a conical basket for securing a stone therein, a post with a near end attached to the conical point and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to ~~the~~ an ear, wherein the stud mounting has at least two wires forming the conical basket;
  - a dangling element for suspension below the stud mounting;
  - an intermediary connecting member having a center aperture adapted to allow the post to be inserted therethrough and of size to allow a portion of the conical basket to also extend therethrough, wherein the intermediary connecting member removably engages the conical basket, and which includes a portion for flexibly supporting the dangling element so that the dangling element is below the stud mounting.
3. (Previously presented) The jewelry design of claim 4, wherein the dangling element has a wire attachment extending therefrom, and wherein the jump ring engages the wire attachment.
4. (Currently amended) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:
  - a conically-shaped stud mounting extending conically outward from a conical point to form a conical basket for securing a stone therein, a post with a near end attached to the conical point and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to ~~the~~

an ear, wherein the stud mounting has three wires forming the conical basket;

a dangling element for suspension below the stud mounting; and an intermediary connecting member which removably engages an exterior surface of the conical basket, and which includes a portion for flexibly supporting the dangling element so that the dangling element is removably suspendable below the stud mounting, wherein the intermediary connecting member removably engages the wires forming the conical basket, and wherein the intermediary connecting member is disposed behind the stud mounting, and wherein the intermediary connecting member has three legs, each of which is connected to the other two legs at a point so as to form a triangular shape.

5. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 4, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a notch formed at each of the three points where the legs are connected to each other for engaging a respective one of the three wires forming the conical basket.
6. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 5, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a beveled area formed in the center of each of the three legs so that the intermediary connecting member does not engage the stone when the jewelry design is worn.
7. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 3, wherein stud mounting further includes a wire seat attached to an inner surface of the conical basket and to which the stone is secured.
8. (Currently amended) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:

a conically-shaped stud mounting extending conically outward from a conical point to form a conical basket for securing a stone therein, a post with a near end attached to the conical point and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to ~~the~~ an ear, wherein the stud mounting has four wires forming the conical basket;

a dangling element for suspension below the stud mounting; and  
an intermediary connecting member which removably engages an exterior surface of the conical basket, and which includes a portion for flexibly supporting the dangling element so that the dangling element is removably suspendable below the stud mounting, wherein the intermediary connecting member removably engages the wires forming the conical basket, and wherein the intermediary connecting member is disposed behind the stud mounting, and wherein the intermediary connecting member has four legs, each of which is connected to two legs at a point so as to form a square shape.

9. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 8, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a notch formed at each of the four points where the legs are connected to each other for engaging a respective one of the four wires forming the conical basket.
10. (Original) The jewelry design of claim 9, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a beveled area formed in the center of each of the four legs so that the intermediary connecting member does not engage the stone when the jewelry design is worn.

11. (Currently amended) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:

- a stud mounting having a stone, a bezel wire for securing the stone, a support wire attached to the bezel wire, a post with a near end attached to the support wire and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to ~~the~~ an ear;
- a dangling element having a wire attachment extending therefrom; and
- a removable intermediary connecting member which removably, conformingly engages an exterior surface of the support wire, and which includes a jump ring extending outward therefrom for flexibly supporting the wire attachment of the dangling element.

12. (Currently amended) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:

- a stud mounting having a stone, a bezel wire for securing the stone, a support wire attached to the bezel wire, a post with a near end attached to the support wire and a far end, and a nut engagable with the far end of the post for securing the stud mounting to ~~the~~ an ear;
  - a dangling element having a wire attachment extending therefrom;
  - a removable intermediary connecting member which removably engages an exterior surface of the support wire, and which includes a portion for flexibly supporting the wire attachment of the dangling element; and
- wherein the intermediary connecting member has a notch formed therein at points where the intermediary connecting member engages the support wire.

13. (Previously presented) The jewelry design of claim 12, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a beveled area formed

therein so that the intermediary connecting member does not engage the stone when the jewelry design is worn.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The jewelry design of claim 2, wherein the intermediary connecting member engages the wires ~~such~~ so as to inhibit rotation of the intermediary connecting member relative to the conical basket.

16. (Currently amended) A jewelry design for adorning an ear, comprising:  
a dangling element for suspension below a stud mounting; and  
an intermediary connecting member having a center aperture adapted to allow a post of the stud mounting to be inserted therethrough, the center aperture being of size to allow a portion of a conical basket of the stud mounting used to secure a stone to also extend therethrough, and wherein the intermediary connecting member includes includes a portion for flexibly supporting the dangling element.

17. (Previously presented) The jewelry design of claim 16, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a notch formed at a point where the intermediary connecting member is adapted to engage a wire forming the conical basket.

18. (Currently amended) The jewelry design of claim 16, wherein the intermediary connecting member is adapted to engage the conical basket ~~such~~ so as to inhibit rotation of the intermediary connecting member relative to the conical basket.

19. (Previously presented) The jewelry design of claim 16, wherein the intermediary connecting member has a beveled area formed

therein so that the intermediary connecting member does not engage the store when the jewelry design is worn.